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Thanks to our partners



COUNTERING BIOTERRORISM: *Defining the Road Ahead*

October 6 - 8, 2003



Park City Marriott Hotel
1895 Sidewinder Drive
Park City, Utah 84060

Presented by the
Utah Department of Health

AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE *Countering Bioterrorism: Defining the Road Ahead* **Monday October 6, 2003**

Time	Ballroom I	Ballroom II	Ballroom III	Ballroom IV	Conference Rm 1	Conference Rm 2
1:00	Registration*					
1:15		Session 105	Welcome Planning for Bioterrorism: Who's on First? Kimberly Shoaf, DrPH UCLA Center for Public Health Preparedness			
2:15			Break			
2:30		Session 110	Defining the Road Ahead: Federal, State, and Local Panel Glen Koops, MPH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Brian Garrett, Utah Department of Health Patti Pavey, MS Salt Lake Valley Health Department Gary Edwards, MS Southwest Utah Health Department Scott Behunin, Lt. Col., Director of Division of Emergency Services			
4:30			Break			
4:45		Session 120	Learning to Talk Like a Fireman - Local Health Department Adventures in Working with the Emergency Response Community Keith Larsen, BS			
5:45			Adjourn			
6:00 – 7:30		Session 140	Reception (Location TBA) Sponsored by Nextel			

*Registration will begin at 9:00am

Tuesday October 7, 2003

Time	Ballroom I	Ballroom II	Ballroom III	Ballroom IV	Conference Rm 1	Conference Rm 2
Continental Breakfast						
7:30						
8:30	Session 210 Modeling & Simulation Tools for Crisis Response Michael Borchler, PhD	Session 220 Ag Bioterrorism Bruce King, DVM Michael Marshall, DVM Earl Rodgers, DVM Chris Crtich, DVM	Session 230 Special Populations Panel Adi Gundlapadi, MD Konnie Parke, RN Judith Holt, PhD	Session 240 Outbreak Investigation in the Shadow of Bioterrorism Andy Tavia, MD	Session 250 Chemical Detectors Lance McEntire Session 251 Biological Handheld Assays Don Goodwrich	
9:15	Session 211 Bioterrorism and Disaster Mental Health Anthony T. Ng, MD			Session 241 Role of Syndromic Surveillance Systems and their Design Mike Wagner, MD; PhD	Session 252 Radiological Detection Instruments Bill Craig	Sessions 260 Business Meetings
10:00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:15	Session 213 Preparing our Physicians: Training needs assessment results Stephen C. Alder, PhD	Session 222 Environmental Response and Bioterrorism: What's the Connection? John McKewon, US EPA Kim Dyches, Utah DEQ, Cheryl Heving, Utah DEQ Warren James, Midvale Fire Department Moderator: Sonja Wallace, Utah DEQ	Session 232 Working with Volunteers Lloyd Baker Russ Hulse Chris Springer Kami Peterson, RN, Salt Lake Valley Health Department	Session 242 Biological Agents: Introduction to agents that can be used as weapons of mass destruction. Royce Moser, Jr. MD, MPH	Session 253 Mobile Analytical Laboratory Sgt. Glen Porter Session 254 Pointers on What to Look for When Buying Equipment Charles Brokopp, DrPH	Session 261 Business Meetings
11:00	Session 214 Using Community Tabletops as a Training Needs Assessment Niki Gladhill					
11:30						
Vendor Time						

Tuesday October 7, 2003 (Continued)

Time	Ballroom I	Ballroom II	Ballroom III	Ballroom IV	Conference Rm 1	Conference Rm 2
12:00						
1:00	Session 215	Lunch <i>Keynote – Back to the Future, Public Health and Emergency Preparedness</i> Ed Thompson, MD, MPH Deputy Director for Public Health Services Center for Disease Control and Prevention				Sessions 262 Business Meetings
1:45						
2:00	Session 280	Break <i>Mass Casualty Planning: Preparing Communities, Responders, Agencies, Hospitals, and Soft Targets for Terrorism</i> Henry J. Siegleson, MD, FACEP				
3:15						
3:30	Session 290	Break <i>Debris Management in Response to a Weapons of Mass Destruction Incident</i> MaryAnn Marrocolo				
4:15	Session 295	<i>Biological Surveillance: Why, What, Where?</i> Judith C. Brillman, MD FACEP				
5:00		Closing Remarks				
5:30	Session 299	<i>Emergency Dept Dinner/Seminar: Bioweapons, SARS, West Nile Virus, and Anthrax.</i> (University Park Marriott in Salt Lake City, RSVP required). Henry J. Siegleson, MD, FACEP				
8:30						

Wednesday October 8, 2003

Time	Ballroom I	Ballroom II	Ballroom III	Ballroom IV	Conference Rm 1	Conference Rm 2
7:00 – 8:30	Continental Breakfast					
8:30	Session 310 Basic Laboratory Testing for Non-Scientists Barbara Iepson, MPH, MT (ASCP) Testing Capability for Bioterrorism at Utah's Public Health Lab June Pounder, MS, PhD	Session 312 Surveillance and Bioterrorism Detection Initiatives in Utah Robert Rolfs, MD, MPH	Session 313 From Smallpox Vaccinations to Pandemic Preparedness Linda Abel, BSN, MPA Sherrie Ahlstrom, RN	Session 314 The Strategic Threat of Bioterrorism: Prevention Strategies Gigi Kwik, PhD		
9:30	Break Last Chance to visit vendors!					
10:00	Session 320 Public Health in the Field – Expanding our Horizon Linda Young Landesman, DrPH, MSW					
11:00	Break					
11:15	Session 330 Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Barbara Reynolds, MA					
12:00	Closing Remarks					
12:15	General Conference Adjourns					

Continuing Education:

The Utah Department of Health has applied for CHES, CNA, CME and EMS continuing education credits. Please refer to your conference packet or the registration desk for instruction on receiving credit.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the University of Utah Office of CME and the Utah Department of Health. The University of Utah Office of CME is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education to physicians.

Designation: *The University of Utah Office of CME designates this educational activity for a maximum of 15.5 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the educational activity. Faculty Disclosure: The University of Utah Office of CME adheres to ACCME Standards regarding industry support of continuing medical education.*

Disclosure of faculty and commercial sponsor relationships will be made known at the activity. Speakers are also expected to openly disclose intent to discuss any off-label, experimental, or investigational use of drugs, devices, or equipment in their presentations.

ADA: *The University of Utah complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act by providing qualified individuals with disabilities access to University programs, services and activities. A request for accommodation can be made by calling (801) 538-9057. Reasonable prior notice is required.*

Countering Bioterrorism: Defining the Road Ahead

October 6 – 9, 2003

Monday October 6, 2003

Session 105: 1:15 – 2:15

Keynote Address

Planning for Bioterrorism... Who's on first?

Kimberley Shoaf, Dr.P.H.

Assistant Director, UCLA Center for Public Health Preparedness

Session Description: In this session, Dr. Shoaf will discuss the variety of players involved in planning for bioterrorism. She will discuss the roles of the various agencies including hospitals, public health, EMS, emergency management, fire, police, etc. She will focus on the interagency collaboration necessary and the utilization of an Incident Management System to effectively plan for multi-agency responses to a bioterrorism incident.

Upon completion of the workshop participants will be able to:

1. Describe the role in disaster planning of two agencies beyond their own.
2. List the core components of an incident command system
3. Describe two cultural differences between public health and emergency management.

Session 110: 2:30 – 4:30

Plenary Session

Defining the Road Ahead: Federal, State, & Local Panel

Glen Koops, MPH (CDC), Brian Garrett (UDOH), Patti Pavey, MS (Salt Lake Valley Health Department), Gary Edwards, MS (Southwest Utah Health Department), Scott Behunin, Lt. Col., (Utah Division of Emergency Services)

Session Description: This session will provide an overview at the federal, state, local, and partnership agency levels in the area of bioterrorism preparedness and response planning activities under the CDC's Bioterrorism Preparedness grant and the HRSA Hospital Preparedness grants.

Upon completion of this session the participants will be able to:

1. Understand the overarching responsibilities of the federal, state, and local levels in bioterrorism preparedness planning.
2. Understand the overarching approach to fulfilling these responsibilities at the federal, state, and local levels.

3. Understand the opportunities and resources, as well as challenges faced at the federal, state, and local levels in preparing for public health threats.
4. Understand the future direction of preparedness activities at the federal, state, and local levels.

Session 120: 4:45 – 5:30

Plenary Session

Learning to Talk Like a Fireman - Local Health Department Adventures in Working with the Emergency Response Community

Keith Larsen, BS, Bioterrorism Coordinator, Bear River Health Department

Session Description: Bear River Health Department shares their experiences and lessons learned in building a community approach to Public Health preparedness. This includes working with partner agencies in emergency response and development of a Local Emergency Response Community.

The objectives of this presentation are to:

1. Help fire departments, health departments and police departments communicate more effectively
2. Define roles and responsibility in emergency response and preparedness
3. Answer question like, "Whose problem is this really and where do we go from here?"

Tuesday October 7, 2003

Session 210: 8:30 – 9:15

Breakout Session

Modeling & Simulation Tools for Understanding Crisis Response

Michael Boechler, PhD

Innovative Emergency Management, Inc.

Session Description: This session will discuss the development of modeling and simulation tools for understanding crisis response by individuals and organizations and its effects on population outcomes to terrorism events within the context of public health consequences of terror events. The focus of the discussion will be on lessons learned from the application of science-based modeling tools to planning, exercise and training problems. Suggestions for the use of these types of tools by public and private sector organizations to improve readiness for a variety of possible terror events will also be offered.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Understand the purpose of crisis response modeling and simulation tools
2. Comprehend the application of these tools to a public health response to terror

Session 211: 9:15 - 10:00

Breakout Session

Bioterrorism and Disaster Mental Health

Anthony T. Ng, MD

**Chair, Committee on Psychiatric Dimensions of Disaster
American Psychiatric Association**

Session Description: In the aftermath of the September 11th attacks, the psychological consequences on Americans were substantial. The mental health effects of a terrorist event, especially bioterrorism on the United States, have gained increasing concerns since in homeland security. This was heightened by the anthrax attacks on the US subsequent to September 11th. The presentation will highlight for the audience the basic principles of disaster mental health and its integration into overall disaster management and public health preparedness. Additional issues related to acts of terrorism including bioterrorism will be discussed, using illustration from actual disaster responses to anthrax attacks on New York City.

During this session the participants will:

1. Identify core issues of disaster mental health in disaster response overall;
2. Identify issues and strategies in a disaster mental health response to terrorism, in particularly, bioterrorism; and
3. Identify lessons learned from an actual bioterrorism mental health response to the anthrax attacks at NBC and ABC in New York City in October, 2001

Session 213: 10:15 - 11:00

Breakout Session

Preparing our Physicians: Training needs assessment results

Stephen C. Alder, PhD

University of Utah, Department of Family & Preventive Medicine

Session Description: Results of the Utah Department of Health Training Needs for Bioterrorism Preparedness needs assessment, conducted during the planning process of physician training for bioterrorism preparedness, will be reviewed in this session. The implications for planning training activities for physicians will also be discussed.

At the end of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Comprehend physicians perspectives on their role in bioterrorism recognition and response
2. Recognize physician attitudes and preferences regarding the content and approaches for receiving training on bioterrorism recognition and response

Session 214: 11:00 - 11:30

Breakout Session

Using Community Tabletop Exercises as a Training Needs Assessment: Methods, Results, and Lessons Learned

Niki Gledhill, MPH Candidate
Utah Department of Health

Session Description: This session will describe how seven community smallpox tabletop exercises were used to identify training and education needs for public health preparedness. Methods of qualitative data collection and analysis will be described, and results of the study will be shared. Recommendations will be made regarding specific training and educational needs, as well as the differentiation between training needs and organizational change.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Understand the methods for collecting qualitative data through tabletop exercises
2. Comprehend the public health, healthcare, emergency response, and community perceptions of public health preparedness
3. Recognize the overarching training needs for the afore-mentioned target audiences to achieve public health preparedness
4. Consider the difference between training needs and the need for organizational change

Session 215: 1:00 - 1:45

Keynote Address -

Back to the Future, Public Health and Emergency Preparedness

Ed Thompson, MD, MPH
Deputy Director for Public Health Services
Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Session 220: 8:30 – 10:00

Breakout Session

Ag Bioterrorism

Bruce King, DVM

Michael R. Marshall, DVM, State Veterinarian,

Earl Rodgers, DVM, Assistant State Veterinarian

Chris Crnich, DVM

Session Description: This session will discuss 1) an eradication model for foreign animal diseases such as viral hemorrhagic disease, 2) the control of equine infectious anemia, or coggin's disease in the Uinta Basin wild horse population, 3) BSE (bovine spongiform encephalitis) in Canada, and 4) lessons learned from exotic Newcastle disease (END) in chicken and poultry and the British experience with foot and mouth disease (FMD).

Upon completion of this session the participants will be able to:

1. Aware of the epidemiology of viral hemorrhagic disease including serum confirmation, eradication, and how it was traced back to the animal population
2. Aware of the epidemiology and control of equine infectious anemia in the Uinta Basin wild horse population
3. Able to understand the economic implications of bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE) in Canada and consider the potential interrelatedness of TSEs like chronic wasting disease, Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, etc.
4. Aware of lessons learned with Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) in chicken and poultry and the British experience with Foot and Mouth disease

Session 222: 10:15 – 11:30

Breakout Session

Environmental Response and Bioterrorism: What's the connection?

John McKewon, US EPA Region VIII, Emergency Response

Kim Dyches, Utah DEQ, Division of Drinking Water

Cheryl Heying, Utah DEQ, Division of Air Quality

Warren James, Midvale Fire Department, First Response

Moderator: Sonja Wallace, Utah DEQ, Bioterrorism Coordinator

Session Description: This breakout session will focus on the overlap between bioterrorism planning and environmental emergency response planning. Local, State and Federal representatives will present what their agencies and programs can bring to the table and what resources you should know are available.

Session 230: 8:30 – 10:00

Breakout Session

Special Population Panel

Adi Gundlapalli, MD, PhD – Wasatch Homeless Health, Konnie Parke, RN – Healthy Childcare America, Utah Department of Health, Judith Holt, PhD – Utah State University, Center for Persons with Disabilities

Session Description: This panel will discuss considerations for special populations during public health threats and emergencies. This discussion will help participants think critically about how we will meet the needs of various special needs populations during a crisis, such as the homeless, persons with disabilities, children, and others.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Consider a variety of special needs that must be addressed in order to meet all needs during crisis
2. Identify partner agencies and resources available to assist with adequate disaster planning and mitigation
3. Understand the importance of including persons with disabilities at the planning table

Session 232: 10:15 – 11:30

Breakout Session

Working with Volunteers

Lloyd Baker, Utah Department of Health, Russ Hulse, IHC Director of Pharmacy, Chris Springer, AVERT, Kami Peterson, RN, Salt Lake Valley Health Department

Session Description: This session will focus on methods of recruiting, training and keeping up with community volunteers. It will include presentations by a panel of people who actually put a volunteer program together to supply the personnel needed to receive and distribute the Strategic National Stockpile in Utah. It will unveil a database program that allows the volunteer manager to categorize and locate volunteers by their skills and by their proximity to an event. The discussion will also touch on some of the risk management issues associated with the training and use of community volunteers.

Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:

1. Describe volunteer recruitment methods
2. Understand the scope of training needs
3. Consider the liability and logistical issues involved in managing a volunteer base

Session 240: 8:30 – 9:15

Breakout Session

Outbreak Investigation in the Shadow of Bioterrorism

Andy Pavia, MD

Session Description: This session will focus on methods and approaches to outbreak investigation in the context of bioterrorism.

Session 241: 9:15 – 10:00

Breakout Session

Role of Syndromic Surveillance Systems and their Design

Mike Wagner, MD, PHD

*Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS) Laboratory
University of Pittsburgh*

Session Description: This session will review the state of the art in early warning systems for disease outbreaks including what is known about detectability of outbreaks of different sizes and types. The talk will also discuss the modular design of such systems to accommodate both local and national data sources as well as very practical issues related to the need to integrate syndromic systems with state NEDSS systems.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Comprehend the application of early warning systems for disease outbreaks
2. Understand what is known about the detectability of outbreaks of different sizes and types
3. Understand how these systems can be integrated with local and national data sources and systems such as NEDSS.

Session 242: 10:15 – 11:30

Breakout Session

Biological Agents: Introduction to agents that can be used as weapons of mass destruction: history, differential diagnosis, triage, and treatment.

Royce Moser, Jr., M.D., MPH

Professor and Deputy Director

Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health

Session Description: This session will discuss salient points of public health preparedness regarding category A biological agents that can be used as weapons of mass destruction. The history of the use of biological agents will be discussed as well as the differential diagnosis, triage, and treatment recommendations of category A biological agents.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Recognize the role of early detection and reporting in mitigating a bioterrorism threat
2. Recognize the characteristics of the category A biological agents

Sessions 250 – 254, 310: 8:30 - 11:30 Tuesday, 8:30 – 9:30 Wednesday

Breakout Sessions

Biological, Chemical and Radiological Detection Instruments:

In the Field and in the Laboratory

Lance McEntire: Chemical Detectors

Don Goodvich: Biological Handheld Assays

Bill Craig: Radiological Detection Instruments

Sgt. Glen Porter: Mobile Analytical Laboratory

Charles Brokopp -Questions to Ask When Buying Equipment

*Barbara Jepson: Basic Bioterrorism Laboratory Testing for Non-Scientists:
Culture media, ELISA, PCR, Stains etc.*

*June Pounder: Testing Capability for Bioterrorism at the Utah Public Health
Laboratory: What we do, contacts, sampling and shipping, where to find info etc.*

Session Description: This session is intended as a brief overview into what kinds of equipment, tools and instrumentation are available to detect biological, chemical and/or radiological hazards in the field and back at the laboratory. This is intended as a basic level class for first responders, public health workers, hospital personnel, fire and law enforcement personnel, or others interested in detection equipment capability. Three levels of testing and equipment will be discussed including detectors and tools to use in the “hot zone” in field work, equipment to be deployed in the field but in the cold zone, and finally types of testing available in the laboratory.

The following objectives should be met after participants attend the lab breakout session:

1. Know various types of tools and equipment that are available for use in the field to test for biological, chemical and radiological hazards. What works and what doesn’t work and how to use the information obtained.
2. Know the basics of more sophisticated instrumentation that can be deployed as a field lab or is used by Utah Public Health Laboratory.
3. Know key points to look for in selecting instrumentation.
4. Know the resources of the Utah Public Health Laboratory, contacts and where to find sampling and shipping information.

Session 280: 2:00 – 3:15

Plenary Session

Mass Casualty Planning: Preparing communities, responders, agencies, hospitals and soft targets for terrorism

Henry J. Siegelson, MD, FACEP

Principal, HAZ/MAT DQE

Principal, Disaster Planning International

Clinical Assistant Professor

Department of Emergency Medicine

Emory University

Emergency Physician, WellStar Cobb & Douglas

Session Description: In this unique presentation, Dr. Siegelson will discuss the health department's and hospital's responsibilities with regard to preparing for a potential terrorist attack, hazardous materials (HazMat) release, or mass casualty incident (MCI). This lecture will help to create a blueprint for health departments and hospital systems as they deal with the challenges of a mass casualty incident. This lecture is designed to increase the awareness of first responders, public health planners, health department personnel, and hospital personnel and to suggest a manpower-efficient, achievable, and cost-effective means to achieve a reasonable level of preparedness based upon threat and what will actually work. Dr Siegelson will briefly discuss personal protective equipment, decontamination, biologic weapons, chemical weapons, explosives, radioactive materials, the threat of terrorism, mass casualties, and the daily threat of hazardous materials.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Understand the medical consequences of a terrorist attack.
2. Understand which weapons are most likely to be used after a terrorist attack.
3. Understand the community, public health, and hospital role in responding to a generic mass casualty event.

Session 290: 3:30 - 4:15

Plenary Session

Debris Management in Response to a Weapons of Mass Destruction Incident

MaryAnn E. Marrocolo Director, Recovery and Mitigation

City of New York Office of Emergency Management

Session Description: Using the World Trade Center debris operation as a model, the necessary components for managing debris following a 9/11 type incident will be discussed

Session 295: 4:15 - 5:00

Plenary Session

Biological Surveillance: Why, what and where?

Judith C. Brillman, MD, FACEP

Associate Professor

Department of Emergency Medicine

University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Session Description: This session will review the purpose of biological surveillance for the detection of infectious diseases, describe the use of traditional and non-traditional medical data for the early detection of epidemic infectious disease. It will also review results of current bio-surveillance programs.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Understand the purpose of biological surveillance for the detection of infectious diseases
2. Learn how non-traditional and traditional medical data can be used for early detection of epidemic infectious disease
3. Describe current bio-surveillance programs and results

EVENING SEMINAR IN SALT LAKE CITY – RSVP required

Session 299: 5:30 – 8:30 (Dinner Served at 6:00)

Bioweapons, SARS, West Nile Virus, and Anthrax:

“Is it True that there are 200 Patients Waiting to be Seen at Triage?

Or...Why Are There So Many People Looking For a Parking Place?”

Henry J. Siegelson, MD, FACEP

In this unique presentation, Dr. Siegelson will discuss health department and hospital responsibilities with regard to preparing for a potential mass casualty event involving naturally occurring or intentionally released agents. This lecture will challenge current assumptions and help to create a clear picture of the requirements of a rapidly developing public health emergency. This lecture is designed to increase the awareness of public health and hospital personnel, emergency physicians, emergency nurses, and community decision makers and to suggest a manpower-efficient, achievable, and cost-effective means to achieve a reasonable level of preparedness based upon threat and what will actually work. Dr Siegelson will discuss SARS, bioweapons, mass casualty triage, personal protective equipment, decontamination, radioactive materials, the threat of terrorism, mass casualties, and the daily threat of hazardous materials. Towards the end of the didactic session, Dr. Siegelson will facilitate a short tabletop exercise to dramatize the realities of these threats.

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the medical consequences of a terrorist attack.
2. Understand which weapons are most likely to be used after a terrorist attack.
3. Understand which weapons might represent the greatest threat to loss of human lives.
4. Understand the community, public health, and hospital role in responding to a generic mass casualty event.
5. Understand the threat of exposure to anthrax, SARS, and West Nile Virus.
6. Understand how the community can offer care to mass casualty victims after the hospital has been overwhelmed.
7. Develop a strategy for decontamination that will enable rapid decon and transport of the minimally injured and worried-well survivors.
8. Understand how communities and hospitals can develop a cost-effective system to meet the daily needs of the community and rapidly expand this system to care for mass casualties. Understand the challenges of a mass casualty biologic public health emergency.

Wednesday October 8, 2003

Session 312: 8:30 – 9:30

Breakout Session

Surveillance and Bioterrorism Detection Initiatives in Utah

Robert Rolfs, MD, MPH – Utah State Epidemiologist

Session Description: Approaches to surveillance being used in Utah to enhance the ability to detect bioterrorism as well as naturally occurring outbreaks. Strategies such as 24/ 7 reporting, syndromic surveillance will be discussed.

Session 313: 8:30 – 9:30

Breakout Session

From Smallpox Vaccinations to Pandemic Preparedness: Lessons Learned

Linda Abel, BSN, MPA, - Utah Smallpox Vaccination Program Manager
Sherrie Alstrom, RN – Tooele County Health Department Nursing Director

Session Description: This session will describe lessons learned from phase I of the Utah Smallpox Vaccination Program as well as the future direction of pandemic preparedness. Insights from both the local and state experiences will be shared.

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to:

1. Know the background and implementation history of the smallpox vaccination initiative in Utah
2. Understand how the future direction of the program will focus on pandemic preparedness

Session 314: 8:30 – 9:30

Breakout Session

The Strategic Threat of Bioterrorism: Prevention Strategies

Gigi Kwik, PhD

Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies

Session Description: Bioterrorism is a strategic security threat that will grow with time, particularly because the growing power of bioscience increases the destructive potential of a bioterrorist attack. However, the same research that people worry about as being useful to potential bioweaponers has other uses, for the public good. This conundrum forces everyone to examine how we can maximize the public good while doing as much as possible to prevent a catastrophic bioweapons attack. The elements of a national response strategy to the threat of bioterrorism will be discussed, as well as new directions for arms control in bioscience.

Upon completion of this session the participants will be able to:

1. Understand what is meant by 'dual-use' technology.
2. Describe why scientists must become key players in the prevention and response to bioterrorism (SARS will be used as an example).
3. Understand why we cannot rely upon treaties to prevent biological weapons attacks.

Session 320: 10:00 – 11:00

Plenary Closing Keynote

Public Health “In the Field” – Expanding our Horizon

Linda Young Landesman, DrPH, MSW

Session Description: In this session, Dr. Landesman will discuss how the public health role and responsibilities in preparation and response to events of bioterrorism requires the establishment of new professional relationships. She will differentiate the responsibilities of both public health from those of our response partners and discuss strategies for enhancing inter-agency cooperation. This session will include information about health sector preparedness activities undertaken by the New York City community in the 2 years since the attack on the World Trade Center.

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the public health functional model to bioterrorism response
2. Describe the tasks of the public health community in response to an event of bioterrorism
3. Describe the tasks of law enforcement in response to an event of bioterrorism and how their role interfaces with public health
4. Describe strategies for improving community preparedness and interagency cooperation in the health sector

Session 330: 11:15 – 12:00

Plenary Closing Keynote

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication

Barbara Reynolds, MA

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Communication

Main Conference Adjourns

Thursday October 9, 2003

Session 400: 8:00 – 4:30

Post-Conference Workshop (Participants must Pre-register)

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication Course

Barbara Reynolds, MA

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Communication

Workshop Description: The CDC Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication course is a fast-paced, interactive course that gives participants essential knowledge and tools to navigate the harsh realities of communicating to the public, media, partners and stakeholders during an intense public health emergency, including terrorism. The course consists of 12 self-contained modules that can be mixed and matched to meet the crisis communication training needs of distinct groups (e.g., public health professionals, medical and health professionals, first responders, community and civic leaders and volunteer organizations) at the local, state and federal levels.

Effective communication is a “resource multiplier” during a crisis, disaster or emergency. Many of the expected negative individual and community behaviors can be mitigated with effective emergency risk communication. The practitioner must anticipate what mental stresses the population will be experiencing and apply appropriate risk communication strategies to attempt to manage these stresses in the population. Risk communication is a reasoned and mature communication approach to the selection of message, messenger and method of delivery.

Emergency risk communication encompasses the urgency of disaster communication with the need to communicate risks and benefits to stakeholders and the public. Emergency risk communication is an expert “risk/benefit” opinion provided by an official—under intense time pressure and with less than complete information—to empower the public’s decision making and advance a behavior that allows for rapid and efficient recovery from the event.

Module topics include:

- *Pre-event, Event and Post-event Communication Planning*
- *Psychology and use of Risk Communication Principles in a Crisis*
- *Working with the Media in a Crisis*
- *Spokesperson Trust and Credibility in an Emergency*
- *Crisis Communication Plans and the 9 Steps of Response*
- *Media and Public Health law*
- *Messages and Audiences Needs in a Crisis*
- *Bioterrorism and Emergency Risk Communication*
- *Meeting Partner and Stakeholders Needs*
- *Roles and Responsibilities in the Official Response*
- *Human Resource Management for Communicators in a Crisis*

